

SCIENTIFIC RESULTS FROM THE MAMMAL SURVEY.

No. XXIII.

By

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A NEW BAT OF THE GENUS MYOTIS FROM SIKKIM.

In Mr. Wroughton's Report No. 26, on Darjiling Mammals, a note by me is published (Journ. B. N. H. S., xxiv, p. 779, 1916) on two specimens of *Myotis sicarius*, with a comment that one of them is a good deal smaller than the other, with specially smaller teeth.

We have now received from the Bombay Society two further specimens of this group, male and female, and both of them precisely agree with that smaller specimen, and as both sexes are represented I cannot but consider that the series includes two species, of which one needs description as new.

Although the first discovery was made by Mr. Baptista, it is to the two recent specimens that the clearing up of the confusion is due, and as the Society owes them to Mr. C. Primrose, I take the liberty of forming the specific name as follows:—

MYOTIS PRIMULA, sp. n.

General characters of *M. sicarius*, but smaller and with smaller teeth.

Colour and external characters apparently quite as in *sicarius*. Fur of back about 7 mm. in length. General colour above mummy-brown, the ends of the hairs glossy and rather paler. Undersurface greyish white, the bases of the hairs slaty; medium ventral area more or less tinged—perhaps stained—with yellowish.

Skull shaped as in *sicarius*, but smaller; [compare the skull measurements below with those published by Mr. Wroughton (J. B. N. H. S., Vol. XXIII, p. 608)]. Canines shorter and considerably more slender, their antero-posterior diameter in *sicarius* 1.3mm. in *primula* 1.0mm. Small premolar even smaller in proportion to the anterior one, quite internal to the tooth row. Below, this difference is accentuated, for the middle lower premolar is in *sicarius* in the tooth row and of about one-third the area in cross section of the anterior tooth, while in *primula* the two are as in the upper jaw, the middle one quite internal and only about one-tenth the area of the first.

Dimensions of the type, the starred measurements taken in the flesh.
Forearm :—46mm.

Head and body 47*, tail 39*, ear 15*, lower leg and hind foot (c. u.), 31.5.

Skull, greatest length 17.2, basi-sinual length 13.1, zygomatic breadth 11.8, interorbital breadth 4.5, breadth of brain case 8.5, palato-sinual length 7.8, front of canine to back of m³ 6.9, front of p¹ to back of m² 4.6, breadth across outer corners of m² 7.3.

Hab. of type.—Pashok, Darjiling, 3,500', of Mr. Primrose's specimens, Teesta Valley Tea Estate, 3,000'.

Type.—Adult male B. M. No. 16.3.25.30. Original number 500. Collected 30th July 1915 by N. A. Baptista. Presented to the National Museum by the Bombay Natural History Society.

No. XXIV.

THE MAINLAND REPRESENTATIVE OF RATUFA M. DANDOLENA.

BY R. C. WROUGHTON.

Messrs. Robinson and Kloss in a "Nominal List of the SCIURIDAE, of the Oriental Region, with a list of specimens in the Collection of the Zoological Survey of India" published in the records of the Indian Museum, xv. p. 171 *et seq.* 1918, revive the name *albipes*, Blyth, for two specimens of *Ratufa*, the one from the Nilgiris and the other from the Shevaroy Hills. The recent receipt of six specimens of a *Ratufa*, collected by Mr. Stoney from "the foot of Hills to the West of Srivilliputtur," has led me to investigate the proposal to revive Blyth's name in this connection.

Blyth bases his original description on a stuffed skin and skeleton in the Calcutta Medical College, the origin of which was unknown, and which are now, it would seem, no longer available. The description commences by likening the new form to *macroura*, Pennant, *i. e.* to *macroura dandolena*, Thos. and Wrought. (cf. The Giant Squirrels of Ceylon, J. B. N. H. S., xxiv. p. 34, 1915.) and goes on to say that it is "of an uniform dull brown colour above and on the outside of the limbs down to the feet" and further "Paws whitish with black hairs intermixed upon the toes" and finally goes on to say "However the latter (*i. e.* '*macroura*' or *dandolena*) may vary the forelimbs from the elbow are invariably white, and a corresponding portion of the hind limbs. . . . I take that now described to be a particular race, equivalent to many others that are named; but the habitat remains to be ascertained."